

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 011449
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /040 R

DRAFTED BY EUR;SOV;MLEVITSKY:REH
APPROVED BY EUR;SOV;MGARRISON
-----024776 162208Z /75

P R 162104Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS STATE 011449

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: SHIPLER ARTICLE ON EMBASSY CONTACTS

1. NY TIMES JAN 16 HAS SHIPLER ARTICLE ENTITLED "SOVIET DISSIDENTS' CONTACTS UPSET" WHICH REPORTS 1) AMERICAN DIPLOMATS 'ORDERED' NOT TO MEET DISSIDENTS IN PUBLIC PLACES OR IN DISSIDENTS' HOMES "WITHOUT FIRST NOTIFYING SUPERIORS IN EMBASSY, "; 2) DISSIDENT CONTACTS SPREAD MORE BROADLY WITHIN EMBASSY TO LESSEN PRESSURE BY SOVIETS ON ANY ONE OF THEM; 3) CONCERN IN EMBASSY THAT SOVIETS TRYING TO THIN RANKS OF FOREIGN SERVICE SOVIET SPECIALISTS BY ATTACKING, COMPROMISING, AND EXPELLING YOUNG EMBOFFS; 4) AMBASSADOR HAS "ORDERED" THE STAFF TO ALLOW NOTHING FOR DISSIDENTS TO BE SENT VIA POUCH EXCEPT FOR LETTERS TO USG OFFICIALS; 5) DISSIDENTS COMPLAIN ABOUT LACK OF CONTACT AND DECREASED ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH OUTSIDE WORLD; 6) SOME EMBOFFS HAVE "BRIDLED" AT RESTRICTIONS WHICH THEY SAY IMPAIR THEIR ABILITY TO FOLLOW DISSIDENT AFFAIRS, BUT OTHERS CITE "DISAPPEARANCE" OF DISSIDENTS (I.E., THROUGH IMPRISONMENT
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AND HARASSMENT) AS THE MAJOR FACTOR.

2. ARTICLE ALSO SAYS CURRENT RULE ON CONTACTS PUT INTO EFFECT AFTER HARASSMENT OF FSO PRESEL WHO REPORTEDLY WAS "WITHDRAWN LAST SUMMER AHEAD OF SCHEDULE." SHIPLER SAYS,

HOWEVER, THOSE INVOLVED SAY THEIR CONTACTS NOT CURTAILED,

NOR HAS THEIR REPORTING BEEN DAMAGED. ONE "DIPLOMAT"
DESCRIBED RULE AS "COORDINATING MECHANISM" AND A
MEANS TO REDUCE CHANCES OF ENTRAPMENT. ANOTHER "AMERICAN"
QUOTED AS SAYING AMBASSADOR RUNS A "VERY TIGHT SHIP" AND
"DOESN'T WANT ANY SURPRISES."

3. FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE BEING POUCHED. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE011449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780023-0797
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780158/aaaabxfl.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 368963e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3767006
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHIPLER ARTICLE ON EMBASSY CONTACTS
TAGS: PINT, UR
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/368963e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014